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IRS NAMES RICH MORGANTE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, TAX EXEMPT AND GOVERNMENT ENTITIES DIVISION

WASHINGTON – The Internal Revenue Service announced today the selection of Rich Morgante as Deputy Commissioner, Tax Exempt and Government Entities Division.

He succeeds Darlene Berthod, who recently retired.

"The TE/GE business division serves a wide array of customer groups with very distinct needs," said IRS Commissioner Charles O. Rossotti. "Rich's diverse experience will be a valuable asset."

Morgante will assist TE/GE Commissioner Evelyn Petschek in overseeing the administration of complex provisions of tax law relating to employee plans, tax-exempt organizations and various government entities. There are about 3 million organizations which are affected by these provisions and which form TE/GE's customer base. They include small local community organizations and municipalities, major universities, pension funds, state governments and Indian tribal governments.

"Rich Morgante's background and experience will be invaluable to TE/GE as we continue to refine and expand the programs that serve our various customer groups," Petschek said.

Morgante, a 1992 graduate of the IRS Executive Development Program, most recently served as Director of Management and Finance in the Small Business/Self Employed Division, where he managed the financial, human resources and strategic planning activities for the IRS's largest operating division. Other positions held during his tenure with IRS include National Director for Economic Analysis, National Director for Budget, Assistant Director of the Los Angeles District (a former Employee Plans/Exempt Organizations key district) and Director of the Gulf Coast District.

A native of Buffalo, New York, Morgante holds a B.A. degree in Philosophy and Theology from St. John Vianney Seminary in East Aurora, New York, a Certificate in Public Administration from the University of Southern California and a Certificate in Financial Management from George Washington University.